

and the fundamental teachings of our institutions. "While we ask no special privileges, just a recognition of our rights, yet it has meant much to us and to the Jew the world over that a President, Mr. Roosevelt, appointed Oscar S. Strauss to a cabinet post, a President Taft, who fought so gloriously for the abrogation of the Russian Treaty or a President Wilson who places a Louis D. Brandeis on the most exalted judicial bench in the world," as we are reminded by Brother Coffee.

The world has come to know the leading statesmen of England, the Jew Disraeli; the Lord Chief Justice of England, the Jew, Rufus Daniel Isaacs; the greatest lawyer America has ever produced, the attorney general and often times called "The Brains" of the Confederacy, the Jew, Judah P. Benjamine, the world's most celebrated actress, the French Jewess, Sarah Bernhardt; the foremost musician, the Russian Jew, Rubenstein; all these the world has come to know as Jews as well as the Shylock and the Pawnbroker. With this knowledge has come the realization that the Jew is born of woman, as is his fellowman; breathes the same air, eats, drinks, sleeps as does his neighbor; is moved by the same passions of joy and sorrow and worships the same God, the Divine conception of which was given to the world by the Jew.

Has not the vision of the spirit become a prophecy fulfilled when a prominent Christian writer sends a message to his people and asks them—"Why should the Christian not willingly pay to the Jew the tribute of affectionate respect? From the Jewish race the Gentile got his religion, from its sacred writings, his morals, his conception of deity, and his reverence for all the virtues. Obliterate the work of the Jew in ancient times and you destroy the Old Bible and the Ten Commandments; strike out his works in the present era and you likewise destroy the New Testament."

The divine truth of noble deeds uniting mankind was most tersely expressed some two hundred years ago by the poet, Lessing, son of a Christian minister, in his play called "Nathan the Wise," when the Jew, Nathan the Wise, had done a most unusual act of mercy and love for a Christian, whereupon the Friar exclaimed: "Nathan you are a Christian. There never was a better." To which Nathan the Wise replied: "What makes me to you a Christian, makes you to me a Jew."

But men and women of the faith of Abraham, sons and daughters of the Covenant, the price of this success has been untiring effort, constant loyalty, unremitting toil and many disappointments on the part of those at the helm of this great institution. These things were not accomplished by a moment's indifferent turn of the hand. They mean ceaseless struggles, patient endurance, time, energy and thought, as well as money, all without end, on the part of the leaders of the order. And now, as a propagandist I come to the message which I want you to take to your hearts, to carry home with you and ever be present in your mind: That it is not sufficient for you, as an individual, to recognize the grandeur and nobility of this work, to honor those doing it with high sounding titles, to compliment them on their Jewishness, and content yourself with that. It is not enough for you to say that it is a fine thing for such men as Adolph Kraus, Simon Wolff, Sigmond Livingston, and such smaller units as these in your midst, to leave

their business, and devote their thought, their time and their energies to this work. What they want is not your praise but your prestige. They want your individual endorsement of their work by your membership in the order so that they may work in your name for you and for humanity. With a fifty thousand membership the I. O. B. B. has accomplished wonders but that membership should be increased to one hundred thousand, five hundred thousand and even, and then can its full force be exercised, as the representative of Judaism throughout the nation. Your appreciation of its work can effectually be shown only by your personal endorsement of its objects and purposes as expressed by your membership. Let it not be said that your work is, not only being done by another, but even done in another's name. It is not asked that all of you devote time and your thought to the active affairs of the order, but it is asked, yes even demanded, that every man of Jewish faith avail himself of the opportunity of identifying himself with the I. O. B. B. and thereby honor the name of his fathers and bear nobly the inheritance of the Covenant, the Biblical charge: "Be thou a blessing."

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